

Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services 2016 Juvenile Detention Inspection - Compliance Report



Allen County Juvenile Center
2929 Wells Street
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46808

Auditors

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Indiana Department of Correction
Division of Youth Services
302 W. Washington St. Rm. E334, Indianapolis, IN 46204

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Inspection Date: March 8, 2016

Subsequent Visit Date(s): January 20, 2016
February 24, 2016
July 20, 2016

Technical Assistance Date: January 20, 2016
March 16, 2016

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INTRODUCTION

The new Indiana Juvenile Detention Standards are in the process of being adopted, therefore the 20th annual evaluation of the Allen County Juvenile Center consisted of an audit of the current 26 mandatory compliance standards or the corresponding 16 newly proposed mandatory compliance standards. Compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards is required to attain “Full Compliance”.

FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility county	Allen
Governing authority	Allen Superior Court
Name of facility administrator	Shane Armstrong
Detention facility’s mission	The Allen County Juvenile Center views the concept of

	<p>detention as being able to provide the community a continuum of services directed toward meeting the needs of individual juveniles who, for the protection of the community or themselves, must temporarily be removed from their homes. The need for security measures within the detention program of the Allen County Juvenile Center is recognized and can be implemented to the degree necessary to provide the controls needed for the care, protection, and treatment of each juvenile. Although the juvenile is being detained, even for a short period of time, the Allen County Juvenile Center believes that each juvenile should be treated with respect and provided opportunities to act in a responsible self-enhancing manner. This is accomplished through a varied and active program of education, recreation, counseling, aggression management, and social competence programming. Allen County Juvenile Center believes that this is the most productive atmosphere in terms of the juvenile being prepared for the return home or to a future placement facility. In implementing this philosophy, the Allen County Juvenile Center relies primarily upon the ability of all staff members at the facility to establish constructive relationships with the juveniles that are detained. Through the programming we offer and the relationship that we help them to experience, some degree of trust, responsibility, and meaningful activity is produced. This requires, on the part of the staff members, a high degree of sensitivity, respect, trust, and ability to demonstrate concern for, and to communicate with children who are hostile, alienated, and either unwilling or unable to engage in constructive relationships with adults. The Allen County Juvenile Center and its employees are dedicated to serving the needs of the Allen County community and its residents.</p>
Rated capacity	140
Population on date of audit	70
Average daily population for the last 12 months	60
Average length of stay for the last 12 months	23 days
Year the building was built	2004
Minor upgrades since last audit (i.e. painting, flooring, bedding, furnishings)	2 new media carts, periodic painting and repairs, as needed.
Major upgrades since last audit (i.e. plumbing, electrical, security system)	None
De-escalation techniques training	Handle with Care
Physical force techniques training	Handle with Care
Chemical agents permitted	No
Name of food service provider	Aviands
Name of food service supervisor	Mallie Rowlett
Name of health care authority individual	Danielle Stapleton, RN

or agency and license/certification	
Name of mental health care authority individual or agency and license/certification	Michael Scherbinski, Psychologist

INSPECTION FOR COMPLIANCE WITH 26 MANDATORY STANDARDS

Auditors	Chance Sweat and Laurie Elliott
File Review of the 26 mandatory standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero (0) standards were identified as non-applicable, and zero (0) mandatory standards were found to be non-compliant. • Allen County Juvenile Center was in compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards.
Facility Tour	The Center was clean, orderly, and well-maintained.
Youth Interviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three youth (two male and one female) were interviewed about their experiences at the Center. • Youth reported feeling safe at the facility. • All four youth stated feeling the temperature in their sleeping rooms was too cold at night to sleep despite receiving an extra blanket. • Youth comments were shared with facility administrators.
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a policy, procedure, and practice of cleaning or disinfecting all juvenile clothing upon intake.

SUBSEQUENT ANNOUNCED AND/OR UNANNOUNCED VISIT(S)

On 1/20/2016, a subsequent visit was conducted of the Allen County Juvenile Center by Chance Sweat. The facility tour was conducted by Director Armstrong. When I arrived the youth were participating in education. The facility population count is 46 youth. All areas appeared to be well-maintained and sanitation levels in the facility were found to be satisfactory.

On 2/24/16, a second subsequent visit was conducted of the Allen County Juvenile Center by Chance Sweat. The facility tour was conducted by Director Armstrong. Youth were observed participating in education and eating lunch. The facility population count was 58. All areas appeared to be well-maintained, and the sanitation level was satisfactory.

On 7/20/2016, a third subsequent visit was conducted of the Allen County Juvenile Center by Chance Sweat. The facility tour was conducted by Director Armstrong. When I arrived the youth were participating in education. The facility population count is 36 youth. All areas appeared to be well-maintained and sanitation levels in the facility were found to be satisfactory.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE VISIT(S)

The Allen County Juvenile Center's education technical assistance visit occurred on 1/20/16 and was conducted by Kristin Herrmann. The education program follows the local school corporation's calendar and provides special programming during extended breaks. An instructional day is six hours. Instruction is delivered via an on-site, licensed classroom teacher either utilizing a curriculum created at the facility, overseeing an approved online instructional program or facilitating work assigned from the juvenile's home school. The method of instruction depends on the juvenile's need. Program staff includes six full-time teachers, four part-time teachers, one full-time transition coordinator, and one full-time administrative assistant.

The Allen County Juvenile Center's training and development technical assistance visit occurred on 3/16/16 and was conducted by Chance Sweat and Kristin Herrmann. The technical assistance provided included identifying key changes to the standards, answering questions, and discussing the facility's training plan.

CONCLUSION

Allen County Juvenile Center is in full compliance with the 2016 Indiana Detention Center Standards Audit performed by the Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services.

A certificate of compliance will accompany this report, which becomes public information ten (10) days from the date of mailing.

Please contact me at (317) 607-6507 should you have any questions concerning this report.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Sweat

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cc: Christine Blessinger, DYS, Executive Director of Youth Services
Kellie Whitcomb, Director of Reentry & External Relations
Honorable Daniel G. Heath, Allen Superior Court, Family Relations Division
Jamie Mann, Facility Director, Allen County Juvenile Center
Honorable Thomas, J. Felts, Allen Circuit Court, pursuant to 210 IAC 8-1-5(f)
File